GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2631
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2008
IDENTIFICATION OF IRON ORE AREAS IN NORTH EASTERN REGION
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any iron-ore areas have been identified in the North-Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details of the estimated reserves thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposals, both in public and private sectors for exploring and exploiting these reserves;

(d) if so, the details and status of these proposals; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to further explore and exploit these reserves in the North-Eastern Region ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. Based on its surveys Geological Survey of India (GSI) has located Iron Ore areas in the North Eastern Region. The extent of reserves have so far not been estimated. State-wise details of the survey work carried out by GSI for Iron Ore in the North Eastern Region and resources calculated on the basis of the survey are as under:

State	District	Resource(Million Tonnes)
Assam	Goalpara	26.50
	Bongaigaon	2.20
	Kokrajhar	0.64
Nagaland	Tuensang	1.83

(c) & (d) : As far as grant of mineral concessions of iron ore in North-Eastern States is concerned, during last three years i.e. since 01/01/2005 till 12/03/2008, Central Government`s approval has been conveyed for one proposal from State Government of Assam for grant of prospecting licence for iron ore over an area of 25 sq.km. in Samchampi area under Duwardisa and Borjan Mouza in Karbi-Anglong district in favour of M/s. Plast India Trade and Industries Pvt. Ltd.

(e): As per National Mineral Policy, 1993 the exploration/exploitation of mineral deposits is open for Private Sector participation, both domestic and foreign.